Provisions Act, 1955 in regard to interim rates of wages are still awaited. As soon as the recommendations are received, they will be considered by Government under Section 13A of the Act. Government have already requested the Wage Boards to expedite their recommendations.

Payments to workers of Rohtas Industries Limited, Dalmia Nagar

*138. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s. Rohtas Industries Limited, Dalmia Nagar has not so far paid the salaries and wages due to their 15000 workers from May, 1984;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Supreme Court has directed the management of the company to pay the salaries and dues to the workers; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to see that the directives of the Supreme Court are complied with without any delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir. According to information received from the Government of Bihar, Management of M|s. Rohtas Industries Limited. Dalmia Nagar has not paid wages to workers from May, 1984.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. In its order dated the 5-2-1986, the Supreme Court has directed the Management to pay all salaries and wages due to workers from May, 1984 in three instalments, the first before March 15. 1986, the second before May 15, 1986 and the third before July 15, 1986. According to information received from the Government of Bihar, the Management has been directed to make the payment as per the directive of the Supreme Court. The Chief Inspector of Factories has been asked to supervise the payment and send weekly reports regarding progress in making payments.

Import of natural and synthetic rubber

*139. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI L. GANESAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for importing synthetic and natural rubber into the country during the last three years, yearwise;

(b) what was the estimated demand for rubber during the above period in the country;

(c) what was the production of rubber during the above period;

(d) what was the comparative shortfall during the said period, year-wise; and

(e) whether any memorandum has been received by Government against the import of rubber?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) to (d) Imports of natural and synthe-

tic rubber have been allowed to meet the gap between demand and indigenous production as detailed below:—

(Qty. in tonnes)

Year	Production	Consumption	Shortfall	Imports
Natural Rubber				
1982-83	165850	195545	30000	31659
1983-84	175280	209480	34000	32175
1984-85	186450	217510	31000	32408
Synthetic Rubber				
1982-83	30290	55250	25000	24550
1983-84	32270	62300	30000	30000
1984-85	37669	65400	28000	24000

(e) Representations both for and against such imports have been received.

Assistance to exporters

*140. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state what assistance is given to the exporters in the matter of export promotion, formation of Export Promotion Councils, associations of members with the management through the democratic processes and for the efficient working of such Councils?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): In order to promote exports, Government provides assistance, common to all export products, under various schemes as listed below:—

(1) *Cash Compensatory Support*: Cash Compensatory support is provided to compensate the Indian exporters for various disadvantages which are inherent in our present stage of economic development.

(2) *Duty Drawback System*: Under the Duty Drawback Scheme, exporters are allowed reimbursement of customs and central excise duties paid on materials, comprising raw materials, components and packing materials used in the manufacture and packing of export products.

(3) *Import Replenishment Scheme*: Under this Scheme, Import licenes are granted for replenishment of imported materials required in the manufacture of exported products.

(4) *Advance Import Licence Scheme*: Under this Scheme, the exporters are eligible to obtain advance licences for their requirements of imported raw materials.

(5) *Duty Exemption Scheme*: Under this Scheme, duty free import of specified raw materials/components required for manufacture of export products is allowed for execution of specific export orders.

(6) *Import Export Pass Book Scheme*: Under this Scheme, manufacturer-exporters can obtain their requirements to import raw materials without having to apply repeatedly for advance/imprest and R.E.P. licences.

(7) *Export Houses and Trading Houses Scheme*: Under this scheme, exporters can get themselves recognised as Export Houses/Trading